

CLAIMS:

1. A system for enabling limited time trial use products for additional preselected use, comprising:
 - a power appliance (10), which has been adapted for limited time trial use; and
 - an enabling device (12, 14), provided to the user following authorization, to enable the appliance for additional use.
2. A system of claim 1, wherein the additional use is long-term use and includes all of the functions of a conventional product.
3. A system of claim 2, wherein the appliance is a power toothbrush.
4. A system of claim 2, wherein the enabling device is an element (17) which is positionable by the user permanently within the power appliance, the positioning of the device within the appliance resulting in said enabling of the power appliance.
5. A system of claim 2, wherein the enabling device is an element which is inserted temporarily into the device and then removed and wherein the power appliance includes a circuit which recognizes a code on the inserted element and enables the appliance for long-term use.
6. A system of claim 2, wherein the power toothbrush is brought into proximity to the enabling device, the power toothbrush and enabling device both having communication elements therein for communication therebetween to enable additional use of the power appliance.
7. A system of claim 6, wherein the power toothbrush nestles into the enabling device.
8. A system of claim 6, wherein the communication is optical.
9. A system of claim 6, wherein the communication is radio frequency (RF).
10. A system of claim 6, wherein the communication is magnetic.
11. A system of claim 6, wherein the communication is infrared.
12. A system of claim 2, wherein the enabling device is arranged to enable only one power appliance.
13. A system of claim 2, wherein the enabling device is capable of only one enabling operation.
14. A system for enabling a limited time trial use product for additional preselected use, comprising:
 - a power appliance (22) which has been adapted for a limited time trial use; and

a communication element (20) associated with the power appliance for receiving an enabling message from an external source (26) over a communication line (24) and wherein the appliance includes a circuit (23) enabling the appliance for preselected additional use in response to the communication element receiving an enabling signal.

15. A system of claim 14, wherein the additional use is long-term use and includes all of the functions of a conventional product.
16. A system of claim 15, wherein the communication line is a telephone line.
17. A system of claim 15, wherein the power appliance is a power toothbrush.
18. A system of claim 15, wherein the communication line is an internet connection.
19. A system of claim 15, wherein the communication element is located in a charger portion of a power appliance.
20. A system for enabling limited time trial use products for long-term use, comprising:
a power appliance which has been adapted for limited time trial use but otherwise has a full operational capability of a conventional version thereof, wherein the power appliance includes a portion thereof which enables the device for long-term use upon a selected one of 1) actuation and 2) deactuation thereof.
21. A system of claim 20, wherein the power appliance is a power toothbrush.
22. A system for enabling limited time trial use of products for long-term use, comprising:
a power appliance which has been adapted for limited time trial use, the power appliance including an on/off switch operable by a user in particular patterns, and wherein the power appliance includes a recognition circuit for recognizing a preselected pattern of operation of the on/off switch, the power appliance being enabled for long-term use following recognition of the selected pattern.
23. A system of claim 22, wherein the power appliance is a power toothbrush.